

Indus. m.

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL



BUILDINGS OF THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY UNION
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

By REV. H. W. MUNGER

IN the solution of the problems in the Philippine Islands, one of the most promising factors is Christian industrial education. Education alone does not meet the need. About 300,000 children are receiving public school education. The great majority of these, as among other primitive peoples, regard schools as little more than stepping-stones to a better social position, or as an open door to a life of ease and pleasure. Industrial education alone does not meet the need. No education, however practical, develops the moral or religious nature of the scholars. Education does not make men good; and the greatest need of the Filipinos is the development of moral character. Christian industrial schools train the body, mind and spirit, and produce intelligent, industrious, God-fearing men and women.

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

The United States Government is giving the people common school and industrial education. The government schools, however, are not imparting the common virtues of Christianity, which is the basis of the highest and best civilization. Unfortunately, the training of the public



STUDENTS PAINTING THE SCHOOL FENCE

schools does not develop honesty, truthfulness or chastity.

The Jaro Industrial School aims to meet the need. It has two large buildings, one for the dormitories and classrooms and the other for the trades; also a commodious home for the principal. These are all situated upon a farm of sixty-five acres, two and one half miles from Iloilo, near Jaro, and Panay Island. Last year the school had an enrolment of 135 boys, ranging in age from eight to eighteen years, who came from the neighboring provinces. The instruction is given largely by native teachers.

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

WHAT THE BOYS ARE TAUGHT

As the name implies, the education is threefold: industrial, academic and religious. In the industrial department the students are taught such trades as carpentering, shoemaking, tinsmithing, tailoring and farming. Every boy has to learn some trade. In the



STUDENTS IN THE CARPENTRY CLASS

academic department the boys are carried through the primary grades. Instruction is also given by the medical missionary in hygiene and the use of simple drugs. Some of the boys are thus being developed into valuable medical assistants.

One period each day is devoted to the study of the Bible. A large class of the best and brightest boys

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

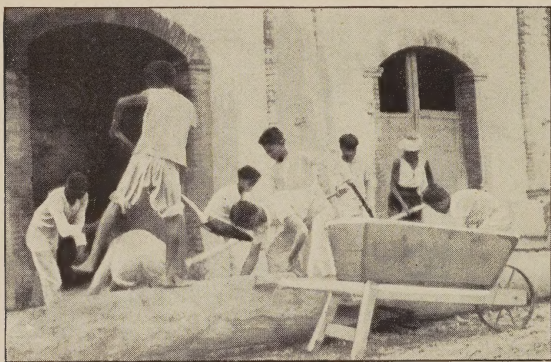
also convenes several times a week for more thorough and systematic study of the Scriptures, with a view to their engaging ultimately in Christian work as preachers or colporteurs. Some of these boys teach and preach in neighboring chapels regularly on Sunday. Every Sunday afternoon an evangelistic service is held in the chapel, attended by the whole student body, although their presence is not compulsory. On Sunday, however, church attendance is required of every one at least once.

No charge is made either for board or tuition; but in lieu of this a certain amount of work is required every day, aside from their industrial training. This applies to all, no matter how well able they may be to pay for their board. No exceptions are made. In this way a spirit of democracy is engendered, and the value and dignity of manual labor are taught.

The aim is a thoroughly practical one — not *how* to do things, but to *do* them. The plan is not so much to teach the technique and science of the trades, as to make the students industrious; not to instruct, but to educate. Everything manufactured in the school is intended to bring in financial returns. The carpenter shop more than pays for itself, and it is believed that in time the school will be self-supporting, except for the salaries of the American teachers.

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

The boys are organized into a Junior Republic, based on the plan of government of a Filipino village. Much of the minor discipline of the school is directed by the boy officers, under the supervision of the principal. Thus they have practical training in self-government, and learn to respect law and order. These juvenile citizens take great interest in their miniature



STUDENTS CLEANING UP IN FRONT OF THE DORMITORY

republic, and considering the large number of students the school is remarkably free from serious breaches of discipline.

THE AIM OF THE SCHOOL

The school is doing two things for the Philippine Islands. First, it is producing an educated, industrious

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Christian middle class, up to the present there has been no middle class, every one being either a tao, peasant, or an upper class man. Second, it is raising up Christian leaders who will have a large part in shaping the destiny of their nation. The masses must have some one to follow; the question is, Shall the leaders be Christian men or educated libertines



LEARNING TO MAKE CLAY JARS

and infidels? Every student who returns home is a man of influence and power in his community, a centre of Christian light and blessing.

Mr. William T Ellis, writing in the *Philadelphia Press*, says that it is the best school in the Islands. The secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, affirms that it is the best missionary idea in the Philippines. A district superintendent of schools said that it embodied the very idea for which he had been looking ever since he came to the country.

THE JARO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

But although an educational enterprise, the Jaro Industrial School exists for the glory of God and the advancement of his kingdom among the Filipinos. The aim, first, last, and all the time is to bring the boys to Christ, and to develop them into strong, intelligent Christian men, whose Christianity will count in the upward progress of their race. We expect that sooner or later, if they stay with us, all will become Christians.

The influence of this school is extending more and more widely throughout the Visayan provinces. Already one revival has been reported as the result of the influence and work of some of our boys. No more far-reaching work is being conducted than the Jaro Industrial School.



STUDENTS WORKING ON THE SCHOOL FARM